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(54) **Photoelectric absolute encoder and installation method therefor**

(57) In a photoelectric absolute encoder including a scale (10) having a plurality of tracks (11-13) with different pitch patterns, and a detector (20) having a light source and light receiving elements including a plurality of light receiving element arrays (21-23) corresponding to the plurality of tracks (11-13), a light receiving element array (22') is additionally arranged at a position in the detector (20) corresponding to a boundary between the track having a pattern with a wide pitch and the track having a pattern with a narrow pitch adjacent to each other in the scale, and displacement of the detector (20) relative to the scale (10) in a lateral direction is detected from a signal amplitude (lamp) of the added light receiving element array (22'). In this manner, displacement of the detector (20) relative to the scale (10) in the lateral direction can be detected.

Fig.5A

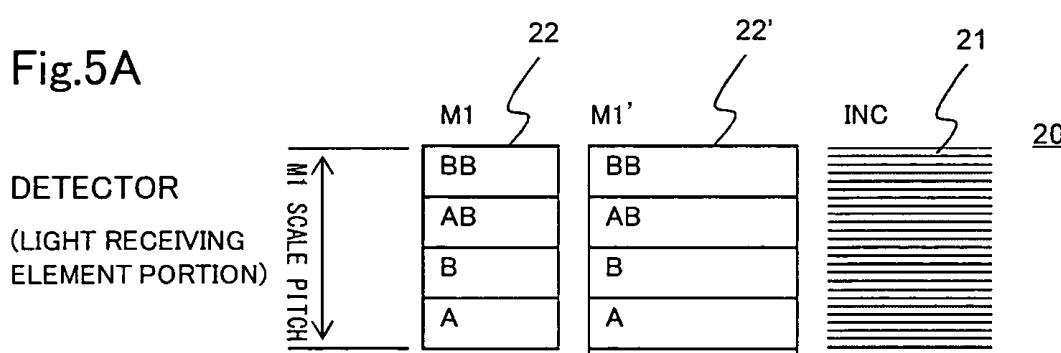


Fig.5B

SCALE

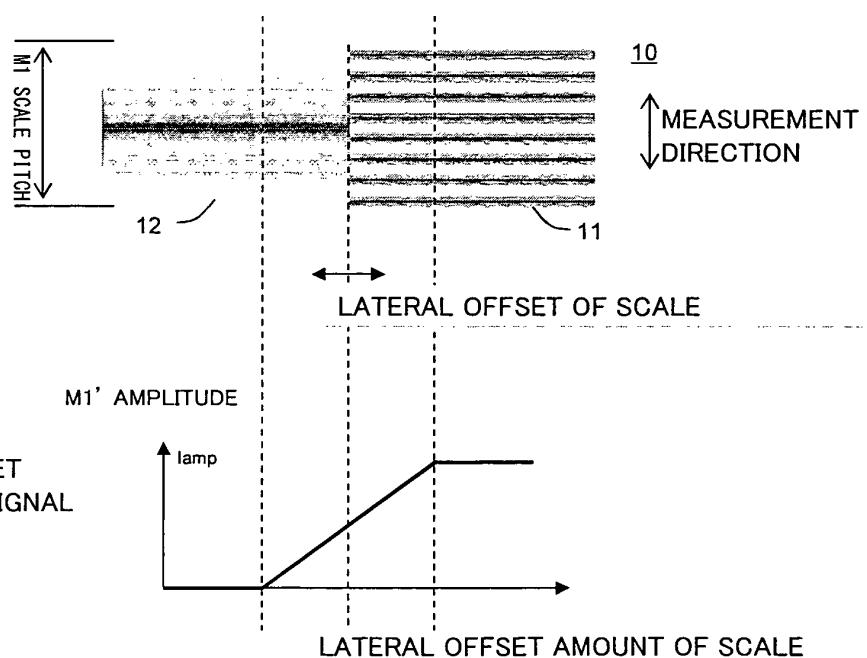
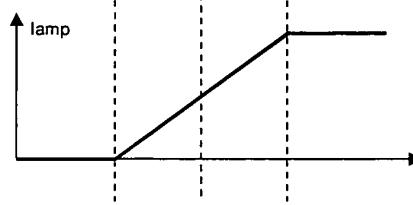


Fig.5C

LATERAL OFFSET
AMOUNT AND SIGNAL
AMPLITUDE



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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1	The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
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	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		
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	T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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